(b) if so, whether the Central Government have agreed in principle and announced release of Rs.41 crores for Science City Project at Ahmedabad;

(c) by when, the Ministry is releasing Rs.41 crores for the said project;

(d) whether Government have given any financial assistance for Science City Project in other States; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not releasing financial assistance for Science City Project for Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In June 2001, a proposal for financial assistance to the tune of Rs.51.00 crores for setting up of Science City at Ahmedabad was received. The total cost of this project is Rs.392.30 crores and is under examination.

(c) Since the proposal is still in initial stages of examination, it is too early to indicate the time for release of funds.

(d) Apart from setting up a Science City already set up at Kolkata, the Government has agreed to provide financial assistance for setting up a Science City at Jalandhar (Punjab).

(e) The fund can be released only after the project has been examined and approval of the competent authority in the Government of India is obtained.

Science City in Hyderabad

2394. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request from Government of Andhra Pradesh was received for setting up of a Science City in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, when such a request was received by the Central Government;

(c) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has also requested for release of Rs.200 crores for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In November 1999, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had

sought technical and financial support for setting up of a Science City at Hyderabad and the project was estimated to cost around Rs.200 crores.

(d) The State Government has been requested to prepare and send a detailed Project Report.

Tourism in the Concurrent List

2395. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO :

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any consensus has been arrived at in the meeting of the Chief Ministers held in September, 2001 for putting tourism in the Concurrent List;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it would help to encourage tourism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) and (b) The Chief Ministers' and State Tourism Ministers' Conference was held on 30th October, 2001. The issue of inclusion of 'Tourism' in the Concurrent List was also discussed.

(c) Putting tourism in the Concurrent List will help the development of tourism in India.

Harassment to foreign tourists

2396. DR. C.NARAYANA REDDY : Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign tourists are menacingly lured by sex workers at major pilgrim centres in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this evil practice is eroding the image of India to the detriment of tourism promotion; and

(c) if so, in what manner Government propose to curb this menace?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN) : (a) to (c) The safety and security of foreign and domestic tourists in pilgrim Centres and, indeed, in all tourist centres is basically the responsibility of the State Governments. As such the State Governments have been advised to adopt